

ABSTRACT

5 A method and apparatus are disclosed for monitoring a
retail location using vision-based technologies to recognize
predefined fraudulent events. Captured images are processed to
10 identify one or more predefined fraudulent events and to initiate
an appropriate response, such as sending notice to an employee
for further investigation or recording the event for evidentiary
purposes. A number of rules define various fraudulent events.
15 For example, rules can be devised to detect when a patron is
wearing stolen clothing out of the changing room, or when a
patron is fraudulently attempting to return merchandise without a
receipt. Each rule contains one or more conditions that must be
satisfied and a corresponding action-item that should be
20 performed when the rule is satisfied. At least one of the
conditions for each rule identifies a feature that must be
detected in an image using vision-based techniques. An event
monitoring process is also disclosed that analyzes the captured
images to detect one or more fraudulent events defined by the
event rules.

1100-124.app